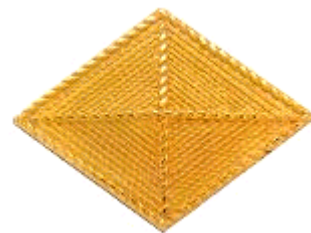


**\*\***

# FINANCE FLASH

**\*\***

## **SPECIAL LEAVE ACCRUAL (SLA)**

Soldiers who serve in a Hostile Fire Pay area for a continuous period of 120-days or greater may be authorized to retain and accumulate up to 120-days leave. Leave in excess of 60-days accumulated under this provision is lost if not used by the Soldier before the end of the third fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the continuous period of service terminated.

Computation of the 120-day leave accrual for personnel in Hostile Fire Pay areas is based upon leave in excess of 60-days as shown on the October Leave and Earning Statement (LES). Qualifying soldiers for FY 2006 are authorized to retain such leave (not to exceed 120-days) until the end of fiscal year 2009.

All leave is charged on a last in, first out (LIFO) basis. For this reason Soldiers need to plan their leaves carefully so that they avoid losing leave. (refer to the figure below)

**Order in which your leave balance is  
reduced when you take leave:**

**1<sup>st</sup> - Recently  
accrued leave**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Special Leave  
Accrual leave**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Leave Accrued  
in prior Fiscal Years**

No action is required for Soldiers currently deployed for more than 120 continuous days receiving hostile fire pay. The finance system will automatically restore any lost leave in excess of 60-days.

Soldiers deployed for less than 120 continuous days must use their chain of command to request approval of SLA of up to 90-days. Leave in excess of 60-days under this approval must be used by the end of the fiscal year. Units cannot submit requests for SLA until receipt of the end of month October LES. Requests will be sent through the chain of command to the MACOM approval authority .

**Afghanistan - Iraq - Kuwait - Qatar**